THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

No. 1} CITY OF WASHINGTON. JULY 1, 1820. [Vol. X.

Published, every Saturday, by JONATHAN ELLIOT, *at five dollars per annum—payable in advance.*

Contents of this No. of the National Register

Mayor's address on the late fire at Troy, N. Y.—Letter from an American of Colour, located in Africa, 1. Fourth of July Oration, delivered at the Capitol, in Washington, 2 to 5. New Hampshire legislative report on the Virginia slavery resolutions, 6 to 8. Late official appointments by the President of the U. States, 8. Mr. Clay's remarks at a Lexington dinner—Extraordinary Strength, &c. 10. Literature of the 17th Century, 11 to 13. Circumstantial Evidence, 14. Turkish News, 15. Indians of Missouri, 15 to 16.

☞ The indexes to the two last half yearly volumes are in the press, and will be packed, accompanied by the three numbers now in arrears which will complete the ninth volume.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE at TROY, NEW-YORK

TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC.

On the twentieth instant, a fire, unexampled in the fury of its progress, in the course of a few hours reduced the fairest portion of this once flourishing city to ashes. This awful visitation of Divine Providence, has in its desolating course, swept away an immense amount of the wealth of our city accumulated by the industry of years, and thrown a respectable and extensive portion of the community hitherto in competent if not affluent circumstances upon the charity of the public, for the first necessaries of life.

The peculiar circumstances attending this terrible conflagration, has occasioned a greater extent of individual ruin and distress than is usually caused by the most extensive fires. The extreme heat of the weather—the extraordinary dryness of every thing combustible—a strong wind and the very compact population in the vicinity of its commencement, at once spread the flames in every direction with a rapidity, which not only baffled every effort to check its ravages, but rendered the removal of any thing within its desolating range, altogether impracticable—Wherever it came all was lost From the vast amount of property consumed, there is scarcely one of our affluent citizens who does not, either directly or indirectly, participate in the general loss.

A calamity so extensive and general, at a time of peculiar pecuniary pressure, renders our own citizens wholly unable to afford that relief to the distresses of those who have lost their all, which their necessities imperiously claim, and which, under different circumstances, many would cheerfully bestow.

Under these circumstances, the Common Council of this city, have felt it their duty to lay the distressed situation of their unfortunate and needy fellow citizens before the public, and in their behalf solicit much aid as those who feel for suffering humanity may be willing to bestow. In making this appeal, they ask not for contributions to reimburse the losses of the affluent, however extensive, but to mitigate the sufferings of the needy and relieve the wants of the distressed—and from the liberality and munificence for which the American character has ever been distinguished, they derive an assurance, that claims upon the liberality so pressing and so great, will not fail to attract the attention and open the hands of the charitable and humane in every section of our country. Under this expectation they have appointed a respectable committee to receive and distribute any donations, either in money or property, which the public charity may bestow. Of this committee Gurdon Corning is Chairman, and to him all donations should be directed.

By order of the Common Council of the City of Troy. ESAIAS WARREN, Mayor.

TROY, June 24th, 1820.

AFRICAN COLONIZATION.

Campelar, (Sherbro Island,) March 30th, 1820.

"DEAR SIR—I have once more set my feet on the green hills of my country. It was a happy hour for me. I praise God for it. We arrived on the coast, that is to say at Sierra Leone, on the 9th instant, and landed here on the 20th. Mr. John Kizzel had houses ready for our reception at this place, which is situated near the east end of the island, in about 7 degrees and 10 or 20 minutes north latitude. We were very sickly when we sailed from New-York, but all quite well when we arrived here, and continue so. The heat is generally not as great as in America during the summer months. The thermometer ranges between 78 and 86, generally 82. We have had several light rains, accompanied by wind. They call them tornadoes. But they are nothing, in point of violence, compared with our American northwester. The soil is surprisingly fertile, as it needs must be, to support the numerous population we meet with here, with its spontaneous productions. All the way from Sierra Leone to Campelar, there is scarce an acre properly cultivated, and yet there are not less than 30, perhaps 60, towns along the shore of Sherbro Island, each town having from 10 to 20 houses. Our little village is getting to look at times like a market for fruit We see pine apples, bananas, plantains, cocoa nuts, oranges and limes, in the hands of our children, as plenty as apples in those of American boys. Palm oil, rice, and casada, camwood, &c. are articles of commerce.

"I desire you to look after my wife and family. I shall not be at home in less time than a year. I advise mother Lucy's children to come out next fall—especially Zara Hall, Senegal's son. I am much pleased, more than I expected; all things go well. My long desire to see Africa again is accomplished. The natives are friendly; they seem to love us. I was at Kough Coughee's to-day. He treated us in a friendly manner He sent one of his big canoes to bring us up to Campelar in charge of his two sons.

God bless all friends in Africa. Farewell. Your friend, ZARA HALL."

We find, in a late Belmont paper, no less than eighteen sheriff's and two marshal's sales; and in a Washington, Pa. paper, twenty eight sheriff's sales. It is comfortable to have company—even in misery. [*Steubenv. Gaz.*

ORATION

Delivered in the House of Representatives, on the 4th of July, 1820.

By Thomas Randall, esq.

Fellow Citizens—

Once more has the glorious anniversary of American Independence been ushered in by the joyful acclamations of applauding millions. At each return of this eventful day, are its blessings commemorated, with undiminished fervor, and, by increasing numbers of happy freemen. No longer confined to the borders of the Atlantic, the seat of its birth, the voice of Freedom is responded from the West—where late the savage occupant of this extensive region fixed his precarious abode, or wandered in his native wildness, Temples, erected to the true and living God, are now thronged with exulting freemen, who, in acknowledging the blessings they enjoy, are filled with gratitude to that Being from whom they are derived. Throughout this immense expanse, wherever the Genius of our Republic extends her protecting wings, are all hearts inspired, and all voices raised, on this mighty theme.

And yet, how inadequate are the powers of man to do justice to the subject! Lost in the immensity of the task, the mind essays in vain to disengage itself from the variety of kindling recollections, and thronging ideas, which press for admission, and to present to your imaginations a distinct, a vivid picture. Glowing with gratitude to those who secured the rich inheritance we enjoy, should your orator take a retrospect of your early history, and attempt to recall the scenes of that eventful period—he will find your minds already occupied with the animating subject. From your earliest years has the grateful theme excited your admiration, and kindled in your bosoms the warmest enthusiasm. The first lessons of childhood inculcated by your parents and teachers, the first books you perused, gave you the deep fraught, the eventful story. Wrapt in admiration and gratitude, you have looked back through the vista of years, and have seen your ancestors flying from the persecutions of the old world, and with heroic fortitude, in the midst of the most painful labors, and appalling dangers, rear on this then inhospitable shore the infant assylum of Liberty. You have seen them surmounting, with a heroism which nothing but the spirit of freedom could inspire, all obstacles that opposed their progress, and extending the blessing of civilization to uncultivated deserts. From the revered lips of your parents, the actors in those glorious scenes, have you heard the story of their subsequent wrongs and sufferings—of their resistance and success. Faint and ineffectual would be any attempt to rouse to a higher tone those patriotic feelings, which the reading of that sacred instrument has elicited; or to infuse into your bosoms deeper emotions of gratitude to its illustrious framers, who in a moment of inspired freedom penned its glowing lines.

Should he wish to describe to you the short, but brilliant career of this country, as an independent nation, the rapid increase of its population, wealth and commerce, and its unexampled progress in moral and political science, he would find in you cotemporary witnesses.

The magnitude—the rapid transition of those events, accumulating within the view of the same generation, causes and effects which in the ordinary advancement of nations, require the operations of ages, are known to you as facts; they have scarcely become history. We know, we witness their results—but content ourselves with realizing their blessings, without minutely investigating their causes. It has been justly remarked "that the history of nations is but the history of crimes."—Fortunately for us, fellow citizens, that period of our history is marked by none of those grand but fatal events which add interest to the pages of the historian, while they seal the ruin and misery of mankind. The gradual march of the human mind through the mists of ignorance and superstition to moral and intellectual light; the peaceful progress of a nation in the liberal arts and sciences; and the developement of its resources and faculties, are viewed by the philanthropist and the sage with deep attention and delight, but excite less interest in the mass of mankind than those more sudden and prominent effects of infuriated ambition, and causeless wars, which scourge and desolate whole nations. The noble stream while it flows silently and majestically along, irrigating and fertilizing the fields, and wafting on its smooth capacious bosom the sail of commerce is viewed with calm complacency or indifference; but when swoln into a torrent, bearing ruin and desolation in its course, becomes an object of deep yet fearful attention.

In an enviable state of prosperity and peace, it was the policy and the ardent desire of this nation to have cultivated relations of amity with all others, and to have kept aloof from the troubles and commotions of Europe. Vain and delusive hope! We were doomed to witness its disappointment, and to confirm that truth which the experience of all ages had established, that peace is not always to be secured by justice, nor safety the result of unmolesting forbearance. While ever those turbulent passions and that spirit of aggression implanted in our bosoms by a just providence for its own wise purposes, shall be allowed to operate unrestrained; as long as governments shall be constituted for the benefit of the few upon the sacrifice of the rights of the many—so long will nations experience that all hopes of security and peace, not founded on mutual interests, are utterly fallacious.—As extravagant as the hopes of the rustic, who waited upon the banks of the river, in anxious expectation that its waters would pass away and leave him a safe and dry passage over its bed. The passions, like its waves, flowing from a perennial source, will continue in endless succession, unless some new impress from their creator shall change their original elements.

Goaded by contumely and wrongs, the injuries of one nation made the arguments and excuse for those of the other, this country was compelled again to embark upon the tempestuous ocean of war, and with manly firmness to assert by force that redress which was denied to justice. How that war was conducted; what vicissitudes we encountered; how the ancient American spirit re-animated our breasts and nerved our arms; and how successfully it terminated, are facts of recent occurrence, and known to you all.

But shall we not be allowed to dwell with proud delight upon the brilliant trophies which the brave defenders of our soil tore from the before-victorious hands of our enemy? Is there an American breast which does not dilate with pleasure at the recollection of the gallant achievements of our army and navy upon either element? Have we not seen the disciplined bands of Europe flushed with conquest recoil with loss and dismay from the untaught, but enthusiastic valor of our troops? Have we not

seen our infant navy float in triumph through every sea, and after disputing the vaunted supremacy of the enemy over the ocean, destroy the proud boast of his invincibility? Have we not seen it crown the glorious work, by humbling the crescent, dictating to the haughty barbarians of Africa the terms of peace, and restoring to the arms of their families, the unfortunate captives of every country, but for this, doomed to perish in hopeless slavery? In whatever countries the "star spangled banner" is unfurl'd, it is hailed as the refuge of the oppressed, and the last hope of suffering humanity. How animating this contrast to the period of humiliation and insult which preceded the late war! Happy at home, and respected abroad, too powerful to invite, and too noble to inflict, injury, our friendship once spurned, is now eagerly courted by all the nations of the earth. Having evinced the ability of our government to defend itself against foreign aggression, and to retort upon the proud oppressor his contumely and wrongs—having proved that our friendship is as much to be desired as our enmity is to be dreaded—we may confidently hope to escape, in future, the destructive vortex into which other nations may be drawn. Wherever the sail of commerce is invited, our ships, freighted with the rich products of our soil, wing their adventurous way secure and unmolested. No longer are we reduced to the humiliating necessity of soliciting as a concession that security for our commerce and enterprising mariners, which is claimed from the great charter of "nature and nature's God;" as if the dearest and most imprescriptable rights of man, derived from that great law of nature, which serves as the only rule between nations could be warped by any exigencies, or require the sanction of treaty stipulation. No more do we fear that the minions of any foreign power will again be hardy enough to drag from their ships our gallant seamen, or that they will again expect to be received like the ministers of the odious mandates of the apostate Julian against the Christians, with "gentle reproof and substantial rewards." With the pride of an American do I assert that never again shall we hear advanced in this country, that political heresy, that any government can fulfil the legitimate objects of its institution, which leaves the meanest of its citizens unprotected. Fearless, then, of injury or molestation; the American mariner may traverse the ocean, the flag of his country, the evidence of his nationality; his protection her cannon. Already do we realize the boast which Rome, in the plenitude of her power, was proud to make, and the exclamation—"I am an American citizen," ensures, in every country, security and respect.

With what gratification do I advert to that inestimable Charter, by which those rights are defined, and those blessings secured? I decline the vain attempt to pourtray even the prominent points of that admirable structure of government, which a wisdom little short of inspiration has erected Could I presumptuously hope, to add new interest to a subject upon which sages have meditated, and volumes been written, the limits of an address of this nature would alone preclude me

Discarding all those slavish doctrines which subject the mass of the community, to a government not constituted byitself, it is founded upon the axiom asserted and maintained in that Declaration just read, that all men are created equal and are endowed by their creator with the unalienable right of self-government. Asserting at once those precious rights as inherent in every society, it disdains to institute a laborious and doubtful search into the rubbish of barbarous ages, or to resort to the mutilated and fabulous legends of antiquity and the extorted concessions of rude imbecile tyrants for the charter of its freedom. Strange and humiliating to man is the fact, that those obvious sacred principles are still peculiar to our Constitution, and that many of those still live, who first asserted them to the world

When, fellow citizens, we minutely examine the structure of this government; when we view its first elements combined in the states, each sovereign as regards those dearer and more intimate relations of men in their social domestic capacity; when we view those various states admirably coalescing in a general central government, embracing and confining them in one indissoluble chain; that like the wondrous Indian Fig Tree, whose branches strike roots into the earth, germinate and become the parent stock of others, in endless succession. it is capable of increase without limit, and of extension without weakness; when in fine we elevate our view to this grand Federal Government, erected on this expanded immovable basis—all powerful for protection, but impotent to injure or oppress—how is the mind lost in the grandeur, the sublimity of the contemplation? In vain do we look through the history of all nations and ages for a parallel to this noble system—it stands proudly alone, the admiration, the envy of the world; founded on that vital principle of representation, that great desideratum to a republic, which the ancient sages sought for in vain.

Let me, fellow citizens, withdraw your views from this scene of calm delight. where all is green and smiling, and sunshine to direct your gaze to the blasted desolated fields of other countries. Never has the world presented a more interesting epoch: On every side we mark the struggles of oppressed and suffering man, crushed by the iron rod of despotism, to re-assert his native independence. While in some open rebellion, and confusion reign in fearful vigor; in others deep and sullen tones of "death and woe," like the omnious sounds of a smothered volcano, give the awful indications of an imminent threatening convulsion.

One great monarch enthroned in the north, wielding his sceptre over the most gigantic empire the iworld has ever seen, attentive to the "fearful signs of the times," by a noble and magnanimous policy, anticipating the exigencies of his subject, and leading the way in the march to civilization and moral and political liberty, gives assurance of peace and happiness to his country, and permanency to his government.

Far different is the condition of the rest of the world: rent and distracted with internal commotions. Opinion, that potent talisman, whose mystic charm has so long shrouded, in awful majesty, the tyrant's throne, and consecrated the sceptre wielded over its entransed subjects, is, at length, broken; and the long slumbering spell-bound victims have awakened to a sense of their blind degraded condition. Taught the secret of their own strength and that nothing but divisions artfully excited, and their own perverted arms could have rivetted their chains, their united spirit of resistance, can be no longer controlled.

Foremost in the bright career, we see the Spanish nation catching the sacred spark of liberty from their brethern of Spanish America, start from

the benumbing trance of ages, of superstition and ignorance, rend asunder the fetters of despotism, with united voices re-assert their native freedom. We witness the regeneration of that deathless spirit, which, though long slumbering, once animated the hardy race of Iberia, and set so long at defiance the colossal power of Rome; that spirit which, at a later period, elevated the Spanish monarchy into the terror, the oppression of Europe and America, and which, more recently, under every discouragement of a weak and distracted government, foiled the before invincible legions of imperial France. No longer contending for the mere change of masters, nor for the proud but dangerous glory of extending their powers, their swords are drawn in a nobler cause, for the inestimable privilege of self government. Who can fail to admire that temperate love of freedom, that ardent patriotism, and that invincible fortitude, which has thus far regulated their conduct? Who can be so callous to every emotion of philantrophy, what American can be so forgetful of the kindred cause for which his Fathers bled, as not to offer up his prayers for the successful termination of so glorious a struggle?

Fellow citizens, I am not the advocate, or the apologist, of lawless rebellion, or frantic anarchy and violence: I deprecate that once fashionable, but desolating theory, which aiming at an unattainable "perfectibility" in man, or society would prostrate every institution, however sacred, and every government, however revered for its practical blessings, if not modelled according to its fancied rule of abstracted right. Let the nations of the earth repose, if they please, in the arms of legitimate tyranny I seek not to arouse them from their death like stupor. Let them erect altars to their despots and offer the incense of a blind and servile obedience to the power that tramples them under foot I seek not to dispel their infatuation. I preach no crusade against their political idolatry But when we witness the spontaneous efforts of a whole people to rid themselves of slavery, and an oppression, infinitely more galling than that which roused this continent to arms, we should be callous to the dictates of nature, alien to the noble lineage from which we sprung, if we did not, on this sacred day, offer up our fervent prayers for a cause so great, so congenial, to our own. Born in this land of independence, inhaling, pure as the vital air, the breath of freedom, scarcely can we realize the feelings of enslaved man—who that can walk forth, fearless and free, and view the glorious expanse before him can fully sympathize with the care-worn captive, the victim of state jealously, or inquisitorial cruelty, pining in his solitary cell, bereft of kindred, friends, and family, suffering the "bitter pangs of hope defered," and wasting away his life, forgotten and unknown, in the pestilential air of a dungeon?

Fellow citizens, our situation is one of awful responsibility. We stand not only charged with the duty of transmitting, pure and undiminished, the inestimable heritage of our Fathers for future generations; but we also hold up a great moral lesson to the world. By our conduct and example must be decided the great question, whether freedom and self government are compatible with the happiness of man, or whether nature designed him to be a grovling debased being, subject to the unlimited control of his fellow man.

Let us then, on this solemn occasion, sacrifice, on the altar of our country, all selfish, ignoble feelings—let us strive to emulate the disinterestedness, the the ardent patriotism, and the republican simplicity, of our ancestors. Too far already have we receded from those manly republican virtues, which dignify and enoble our nature. Flushed with the golden stream of prosperity, which poured upon us, our youthful sanguine hopes, elated like the prodigal, we have drank too deeply of the intoxicating cup of pleasure. Luxury, that insidious foe of republics, all its train of enervating vices, has, with giant steps, invaded our before simple domain and threatens to sap and undermine those institutions which no external force, no open assault could ever overthrow. Too closely have we imitated those exotic follies and fopperies, which engendered in the sunshine of a court, are utterly unsuitable and destructive to a republic; too blindly and implicitly have we followed and adopted the opinions of other nations, upon subjects of our own concernment. In vain have our fathers shed their blood to emancipate our bodies from foreign thraldom, if we voluntarily submit to a degrading mental vassalage.—In vain did they, with manly indignation spurn at all external taxation, if the follies, and the vices of their sons, excited by all artful appliances, are to be the ministers of exactions more dangerous because accompanied with the destruction of simplicity and virtue. Let us then, fellow citizens, in the proud characters of freemen to whom the noblest elevated paths of ambition are open, mindful of our high destinies, dispise the tinsel trappings of aristocratical pride and luxury:

The situation of our country, in common with the rest of the world, has undergone a great and important change. No longer profiting by the destraction and miseries of other nations, are the riches of the world, pouring upon us, in ample streams. Each nation, mindful of the change, is striving to render itself, as far as possible, independent of all others. Let us not be inattentive to the circumstance, nor to the new policy it will dictate. Let us not delude ourselves with the fond expectations, that the dried and exhausted channels of commerce will soon be replenished, by a sudden and more copious reflux. How far true policy may dictate the diversion of our displaced capital and industry into other channels; and how far the various interests of agriculture, commerce, and manufactures, should be respectively encouraged, are subjects of too complicated a nature to be discussed on an occasion of this kind Let us commit them to the wisdom of our government, and to the lenient hand of time; but, above all, let us avoid all rash and speculative innovations. Sudden re-actions are always dangerous in governments. The grand relations of society are too nice and complex to be easily traced through all their ramifications, and too delicate to be rashly touched, without the danger of a total disorganization and confusion. But if deprived of some adventitious unstable advantages, which we lately enjoyed, we have still a country of boundless extent, and unequalled fertility; blessed with every variety of soil and teeming with the rich and varied products of every climate, spread in smiling prospect before us. The earth yields, in bounteous profusion her choicest riches, to all who seek them. Here we may add the embellishments of art to the beauties of nature; and here may we secure all the blessings of which humanity is capable

To us, as citizens of this District, selected by him, who is emphatically styled the "father of his country," as the metropolis of this mighty empire,

a few remarks upon our peculiar situation may not be improper. Thus far, under the protecting care of the general government, have we progressed in population, wealth, and political importance. Blessed with a healthful, favoured climate, unrivalled for the beauty of its situation, crowned on every side by commanding heights, and washed by a noble river, bearing the products of an extensive country into its bosom. This District, marked by the hand of nature, as the seat of a vast and powerful government, will soon realize the splendid anticipations of its founder. How far its present form of government will be found adequate to its rapidly, increasing population, and more multiplied interest; whether it may not be modelled upon a plan more consistent with the great principles of our free institutions, and not incompatible with that perfect independence from collision, or controul, on the part of the general government, which it was the object of the convention to secure, are questions of vital importance, and will, in the fullness of time, receive a decision. In the mean time, fellow citizens, have we been sufficiently alive to its present condition and future destiny? Where are those public institutions of learning and education, calculated to diffuse the blessings of moral and political science, the essential support of every free government: committed to the sole and exclusive legislation of Congress, to them we must look for these vital blessings. Where are those uniform, wise, and salutary laws which shall combine, in one homogenous mass, the present discordant and complex interests of this mixed community, so lately severed from their parent states? Where, let me ask, are those humane institutions, conceived in an enlightened philanthropy, for combining the prevention and punishment of crimes, with the reform and preservation of the criminal, which are the boast and ornament of our sister Republics? Let us be no longer inattentive to these vital interests; let us solicit from the paternal care of Congress that assistance towards their attainment, which they are always ready to afford.

And, to you, my fair countrywomen, the pride, the delight of this nation—decked with all those native charms and cultivated graces, which can adorn the female character, whose moral influence, mild and unassuming, pervades every department of private and social life, to you, is assigned a most important, a most pleasing task. In the revered characters of wives, of mothers, the earliest guardians and instructors of those who will form "the future citizens of this republic," upon your conduct depends their future usefulness to their country, her glory, or her shame.—'Tis yours to elicit and direct the first dawnings of that reason upon the due regulation of which depends their present, their eternal happiness. Instil into their infant minds the sacred principles of religion, and the great moral lessons it inculcates: next to their duty to their God, and instruct them in their duties to their country. Show to them, the intimate, the necessary connexion between those sacred relations, as their reason and judgment expand; read to them the Declaration of American Independence: let its golden truths, its sacred principles be deeply impressed upon their minds; direct them to the "farewell address of Washington," and bid them regard its precepts as the injunctions of a dying parent to his children, to be indelibly engraved upon their memories. Let the examples of Franklin and Laurens, of Jefferson and Adams, of Green and Warren, of Kosciusco and La Fayette, and the host of worthies, whose names illumine the pages of our history, be ever held up to them for imitation.—Tell them of their patriotic zeal, and firmness in the senate; of their heroic valor, and undaunted fortitude in the field; and for a consummation of all that can dignify the hero, the patriot, the statesman, the sage, and the Christian—name to them Washington. From the glare and brilliancy of his public life, lead them to his retirement—shew whither this venerable patriot, voluntarily retiring from the ardent gaze and plaudits of an admiring world—having applied his best years to the service of his country, devoting the residue of his days to his friends, to his family, and his God. In his character let them see the rare combination of the noblest, the most elevated attributes of the hero and the magistrate, with the industry, the economy, the exact regularity, and all the social virtues of the obedient, the useful citizen:—To close the impressive lesson, point them to the glorious consummation of his character, in his pious resignation, and his death—

"He taught us how to live; and, ah! too high
The price of knowledge, taught us how to die."

Too long already, fellow citizens, have I trespassed upon your kind indulgence: yet a few words and I have done. Who that views this splendid structure, the monument of the taste and liberality of our government; who that casts his eyes around this spacious, this magnificent hall, and recollects the noble purpose to which it is applied, can restrain the feelings of national pride and exultation? Here, where your orator essays, in vain, to catch the inspiration of the place; where his feeble voice strives to awaken those echoes which have often responded to the tones of persuasive, all commanding eloquence; here shall the representatives of future generations, of countless freemen, meet on the great concernments of their constituents. When this great continent shall own but one sway, here shall they convene from the Atlantic to the Pacific, "from the frozen lakes of the North, to the sultry plains of the South:" Here shall the little mists of passion and prejudice, which sully and obscure our political horizon, be dissipated: here shall the asperities of sectional and party zeal be smoothed by collision, and all the varied, the multifarious interests of this great confederation, be harmonized and coalesce in one uniform, one national sentiments. Who can view, with undazzled eye, the splendid visions of future greatness, this scene is calculated to excite:—Kindling with the animating subject, and filled with the inspiration of that Genius of America, who towers in awful grandeur above us, should some youth now present, in a moment of wrapt enthusiasm, snatch from the hand of impartial history, her pen, and inscribe upon her tablets, the anticipated glories of that day, he may live to see the faint and imperfect picture of his imagination, fade before the glowing reality. Upon the deliberations of this mighty assembly shall future millions hang, in fixed attention. Here shall that power which has hitherto been wielded in the old world, for the ruin and misery of mankind, be stretched forth for his protection and happiness.—Here, when those monarchs and conquerors, whose frenzied ambition has so long shaken the world, shall, with their thrones and their trophies, be subverted and swept away, by the tide of oblivion, shall this structure stand, the imperishable monument to the fame, to the glory of its founders.

DIED, on the 23d instant, near New-Castle, Delaware, NICHOLAS VANDYKE, aged 27 years, eldest son of N. Vandyke, a Senator in Congress.

VIRGINIA RESOLUTIONS on SLAVERY.

The committee appointed by the Legislature of New Hampshire, (of which Mr. JEREMIAH MASON, formerly a Senator in Congress, was chairman,) on the Resolutions passed by the House of Delegates of Virginia, have fully met the wishes of those, who are opposed to the extension of Slavery within the limits of the United States. The course pursued, in unequivocally denouncing this *increasing evil*, is clearly consistent with christianity and sound national policy. It is high time to endeavour to check the progress of this deadly night shade, which, if permitted to spread in the luxuriant regions beyond the Mississippi, may eventually extirpate the essential and wholesome roots of nature. To drop the metaphor: it is sound policy to limit, as much as possible, the increase of a black population, that, at no distant day, may dispute the sovereignty of the American soil with the *whites*. If there was no other argument against restricted slavery, this alone is of sufficient importance to outweigh every political consideration of interest or constitutional right. It is *self preservation*, and future national existence, that imperiously demands it; every other reason is, therefore, futile, when opposed to this fundamental law of nature.

We congratulate New Hampshire on this honorable testimony of her pure principles of pristine republican orthodoxy. She had no *dough faces*, in her congressional delegation.

STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

In General Court, June 16, 1820.

The Committee to whom was referred a preamble and certain resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Virginia, on the subject of a proposed restriction of slavery, communicated by his excellency the governor,

REPORT

That the committee has not deemed it necessary to inquire whether it would have been expedient for the legislature, at the present time, to express its opinion on this important subject, if it had not been thereto specially invited. But the legislature of the state of Virginia has seen fit to address to the legislatures of the different states of the Union certain resolutions, together with the reasons on which they are founded; giving a construction to important provisions of the constitution of the U. States, and defining the powers of congress The forbearing to express an opinion, when thus appealed to might be taken for on acquiescence in the construction contended for.

After having carefully examined the resolutions, and the reasoning, offered in their support with all that attention to which they are entitled, as well on account of the source whence they originated, as on account of the great importance of the subject to which they relate, the committee is of opinion, that the legislature of Virginia contends for an erroneous construction of the constitution of the United States, relative to the powers of congress, which if adopted, will prove highly injurious to the interests of the nation.

Since the passing of the resolutions under consideration, the subject matter of them has been so amply discussed in the congress of the U. States, as to render it, at this time, an unnecessary and useless labour to assign and illustrate, at large, the reasons why this legislature ought not to give its assent to them.

Notwithstanding the reasoning of the legislature of the state of Virginia, on the language of the constitution, the committee has full confidence, that the power to prescribe the prohibition of slavery, as a condition of the admission of new states into the Union, is vested in congress by a fair interpretation of the language of that instrument.

The argument, chiefly relied on, is, that the prescribing such condition by congress is inconsistent with the sovereignty of the state to be admitted, and its equality with the other states. It is admitted that "Congress, if the applicant for admission into the Union had no right whatever to demand it, as would be the case of an independent state making such application, might provide for the admission of such state upon the performance of precedent conditions, not impairing its sovereignty." If so, as the territory of Missouri had no right to demand admission, the only question is, whether the right to establish slavery within their respective limits is essential to that sovereignty, which is enjoyed by the different states of the union under the constitution of the United States. For evidence that such right is not essential to their sovereignty, which is enjoyed by the different states of the union under the constitution of the United States. For evidence that such right is not essential to their sovereignty, which is enjoyed by the different states of the union under the constitution of the U. States For evidence that such right is not essential to their sovereignty, an appeal might be made not only to the solemn assertion of the unalienable right of all men to freedom, announced in the declaration of our national independence, and which is adopted among the fundamental principles of many of the state governments, and to the reiterated acts of the general government, in admitting into the union new states with a prohibition of slavery, but also to the enlightened judgment of wise and good men of all countries.

Slavery is prohibited by the immutable law of nature, which is obligatory as well on states as individuals. The establishing or permitting slavery by a state, being thus morally wrong, the right to do it instead of being essential to its sovereignty, cannot exist; except only in cases where slavery have been already introduced cannot be suddenly abolished, without great danger to the community. Under such circumstances, it must of necessity be tolerated for a time, as the sole means of self preservation.

The painful necessity may justify the temporary continuance of slavery in certain states of the union where it now exists. But in the opinion of the committee nothing can justify the unnecessary extension of this great evil to newly formed states.

As far it may affect the sovereignty of a nation, no material difference is perceived between the case, where it surrenders its supposed right to carry on a traffic in slaves with a foreign country assenting thereto, and the case of its surrender of its right to acquire in any other way, and retain slaves

within its own limits. And yet several independent nations, and our own among others, have, without any suspicion of injury to their rights of sovereignty, bound themselves by treaty stipulations, forever to prohibit that monstrous traffic. Have they thereby lost what is essential to their sovereignty?

If, from the generality and conciseness of the terms used in the federal constitution, any doubt remained as to their true construction; in relation to the power of Congress, in the particular under consideration, such doubt would be removed on examining the condition of the territory, belonging to the United States, at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, and the obligation they were then under to form the same into States, to be admitted into the Union.

After the United States had, by the treaty with Great Britain, and by a cession from Virginia, and certain other states, of their claims, acquired an undisputed title to the territory northwest of the river Ohio, they passed the ordinance of 1787, for dividing that territory into states, and for their admission into the Union. This ordinance is entitled "articles of compact between the original states and the people, and states within the said territory forever to remain unalterable." It recites the object and design to be "for extending the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty which form the basis whereon these republics, their laws, and constitutions are created; to fix and establish those principles, as the basis of all laws, constitutions, and governments, which forever hereafter shall be formed in said territory; to provide also for the establishment of states at as early a period as may be consistent with the general interest." It then provides as one of the articles to remain forever unalterable that "there shall be neither slavery, nor involuntary servitude in the said territory." The state of Virginia, with four other slaveholding States, assented to this compact. And Virginia afterwards expressly ratified it by an act of its Legislature. The states mentioned in the ordinance, and in which slavery was to be thus forever prohibited, were still to be admitted on an equal footing with the original states. Of course, the prohibition of slavery was not supposed to be incompatible with their sovereignty.

The United States having thus pledged their faith, and bound themselves to admit these states into the Union, with a perpetual prohibition of slavery, it would seem to be impossible that the constitution, which was soon after formed, and certainly with a full knowledge of the ordinance, should not have been intended and understood to confer on Congress the requisite power to perform the obligations.

In further proof that the constitution must have been so understood, might be cited the act expressly confirming this ordinance, among the first doings of Congress under the constitution. In conformity with this understanding of the constitution, have the states north west of the Ohio been admitted into the Union, subject to a perpetual prohibition of slavery. Most of the other new states have likewise been admitted on such conditions, as congress, deeming them to be suitable to their respective situations, has been pleased to prescribe.

This being the construction given to the constitution immediately after its adoption, and which has been acted upon without opposition, and acquiesced in for more than thirty years, it was not to have been expected, that its correctness would at this late period, have been drawn into question.

It must be recollected that this cotemporaneous construction of the constitution was made by those, who had the best possible means of knowing what was the true intent. Many of the distinguished members of the Convention, which formed the constitution, were at that time in the national councils.

Neither these states, themselves, so admitted on prescribed conditions, nor any body in their behalf, have heretofore doubted that they were on an equal footing with the original states, or that they enjoyed all the rights essential to their sovereignty.

The legislature of Virginia attributes this early construction of the constitution, so uniformly followed by the general government, and acquiesced in by the states, to the score of misapprehension. And an intimation seems to be given to the newly admitted states, that the conditions and stipulations, on which they were admitted, and which were solemnly ratified by them, are of no binding force.—The dangerous tendency of such a doctrine is too apparent to need comment.

The legislature of Virginia admits "that this subject addresses itself very strongly to their interest, as well as their feelings." If the obviously just and long settled construction of the constitution, in a particular of great national concernment, may, in a moment of excitement, be set aside in favor of supposed doubts, raised by the excess of ingenuity of reasoning, no ground of security will remain for the equal rights of the states; and the foundation of the Union itself may be shaken.

An argument against the power of congress to prevent the extension of slavery to new states is attempted to be raised from the general scope of the constitution, and from the nature of our free institutions. The legislature of Virginia says, "It can never be believed that an association of free and independent states, formed for the purpose of general defence, of establishing justice, and of securing the blessings of liberty to themselves and their posterity, ever contemplated the acquisition of territory for the purpose of establishing and perpetuating for others and their posterity that colonial bondage, against which they themselves had so lately revolted." "Power may enslave them (the inhabitants of territories) longer, but the laws of nature and of justice, the genius of our political institutions, and our own example, proclaim their title to break their bonds and assert their freedom." Can this have been intended for calm reasoning, to convince the understandings of those to whom it purports to be addressed; or was it designed to produce an effect on the feelings and conduct of the inhabitants of the territory of Missouri, then demanding admission into the Union? It is hoped it will never be believed that this association of free states, formed for the noble purposes above stated, ever contemplated the acquisition of territory for the purpose of establishing or extending bondage of any kind.

If the constitution gives to Congress the power in question, it is not perceived that there is any stipulation in the treaty, which ceded Louisiana to the United States, that forbids the exercise of it, in providing for the admission into the Union of the Territory of Missouri. The provision of the treaty, which is supposed to impose on congress the obligation of admitting territory unconditionally, is the following: "The inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated into the union of the United States, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the federal constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immu-

nities of citizens [illegible] States" It is believed that this provision can have any effect whatever on the question The admission into the Union is to be according to the principles of the constitution If Congress may, according to those principles, make the prohibition of slavery a condition of the admission, then surely the admission, subject to that prohibition cannot be at variance with those principles.

The rights mentioned in the treaty are such as are conferred by the constitution of the United States on its citizens, among which the right to hold slaves (if such right there be) is not one.—Admitting, subject to the proposed inhibition of slavery, the inhabitants of Missouri would have enjoyed the same rights, as citizens of the United States, as do the citizens of the states on the north side of the river Ohio, or as do the citizens of other states, where slavery is not tolerated, and who, as is hoped, will not be soon convinced, that they do not enjoy all the rights, appertaining to a citizen of the United States.

To avoid this conclusion, the Legislature of Virginia contends that the clause "according to the principles of the federal constitution" is no more than a qualification of the time of admission. But the constitution neither states nor even alludes to any principle whatever to designate or determine the time for the admission of a new state Such construction of those words would therefore render them wholly inoperative, and consequently must be rejected.

The toleration of slavery in a portion of our common country has long furnished matter of reproach on our national character; Strong hopes were encertained, that instead of the zeal now shown for tnlarging the baneful operation suitable measures would have been adopted for its gradual abolition. Congress having the power, is bound by considerations of justice and humanity, and by a regard to the general welfare of the nation, to prevent the further extension of this evil.

The attempt to wrest this power from Congress affords just cause of alarm. It is apparent that slavery creates habits and interests peculiar to the states tolerating it, and that it constitutes between them a strong bond of union. To this cause is to be attributed the unparalleled unanimity of every Senator and Representative of the slave-holding states, on the passing of the late act by Congress, affecting this subject.

Should this odious bond of union be permitted to be extended, without opposition, it will soon produce such a combination of political power, as may be sufficient permanently to controul all the measures of the national councils.

By the Constitution, a disproportionate share of political power is conceded to the slave holding States, on account of their slaves. And although the equivalent, given to the States not tolerating slavery, has in a great degree failed, by reason of the government's seldom resorting to direct taxation for revenue, yet no complaint is made, while the advantage is confided to the original States, the parties to the compact, or even to new States formed within their limits. But new States, formed out of territory not included within the original limits of the United States, have no claim to this advantage. And the granting of it to them, when nothing in their situation renders it necessary, is an act of injustice towards the States now allowing slavery, and which if persevered in, may in the end destroy their just share of power and influence in the General Government and endanger their safety,

Which said report was approved and agreed to as expressing the opinion of this Legislature. Therefore,

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened, That in the opinion of this Legislature, the Congress of the United States has, by the Constitution, the right, in admitting new States into the Union to prescribe the prohibition of slavery as one of the conditions, on which such State shall be admitted.

That in the case of Missouri, to which, by the Preamble and Resolutions, of the General Assembly of Virginia, the attention of this Legislature has been called, that right remained in full force, unimpaired either by the treaty under which that territory was acquired, or any subsequent acts of the General Government:

That in the opinion of this Legislature, the existence of slavery within the United States is a great moral as well as political evil, the toleration of which can be justified by necessity alone, and that the further extension of it ought to be prevented, by the due exercise of the power vested in the General Government:

Resolved, that the Governor of this State be requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing report and resolutions lo the Government of the State of Virginia.

Passed House of Representatives—Yeas 194.—Nays—none.

Passed in Senate—Yeas 11.—Nays—none.

Appointments,

By the President of the United States, confirmed by the Senate.

John C. S Harrison, of Indiana to be receiver of public moneys for lands of the United States, at Vincennes, in the state of Indiana.

Willoughby Barton, of Georgia, to be register of the land office of the United States, at Jackson court house.

William Armstead, of Virginia, to be collector and inspector of the revenue, for the district of Hampton.

William Minor, Thomas Vowell, George Wise, and Christopher Neale, of the District of Columbia, to be justices of the peace for the county of Alexandria.

William Clark, whose commission as governor in and over the Missouri territory, will expire on the 21st instant, to be governor of said territory for three years next ensuing that date.

Lewis Cass, whose commission as governor, in and over the Michigan territory, will expire on the 11th of February next. to be governor of said territory for three years next ensuing that date.

William Barnett, of Alabama, to be receiver of public moneys for lands of the United States, at Jackson court house.

Samuel A. Morse, of the District of Maine, to be collector of the customs and inspector of the revenue, for the district of Machais, in Maine.

George Ferabee, of N. C. to be surveyor and inspector of the revenue, for the port of Pasquotank river Bridge, in that state.

John Chew, of Md. to be collector and inspector of the revenue for Havre de Grace, Maryland.

Alexander Hunter, to be surveyor and inspector of the revenue for the port of Savannah, in the state of Georgia.

John Rainals, of Copenhagen, to be consul of the U. States for the port of Copenhagen.

Joshua Dodge, of Mass to be consul of the U. States, for the port of Marseilles.

Woodbridge Odlin, of Penn. to be consul of the U. States for the port of St Salvador, in Brazil.

Joseph Aborn, of Louisiana, to be collector and inspector of the revenue for the district of Nova Iberia, in said state.

John McNeil, jun to be collector of the revenue for the ninth district in the state of Maryland.

Emanuel Wambersie to be consul at Rotterdam.

Gerard D Smith, of New-York, to be consul at La Rochelle.

Beverly Daniel, whose commission as marshal of the N. Carolina district will expire on the 26th of April next, to be marshal of that district for four years next eesuing that date.

James Prince, whose commission as marshal of the Massachusetts district will expire on the 16th January, to be marshal of that district for four years next ensuing that date.

Joseph F. Wingate, of Mass. to be collector of the customs and inspector of the revenue for the district of Bath, in said state.

James Palmer, of N. Carolina, to be surveyor of the port of Windsor, in said state.

Harvey Strong, of New-York, to be consul at Glasgow and Greenock.

James Sterrit, of New Orleans, to be naval officer of the district of Mississippi, in Louisianna.

Robert B. Belt, of Maryland to be factor at Fort Edwards.

Bernard Spalding, of Georgetown, John Boyce, John Crabb, and Gustavus Higdon, of the City of Washington, to be justices of the peace in and for the county of Washington, in the District of Columbia.

Walter M. Leake, to be marshal of the district of Mississipi.

Christopher Ellery, of Rhode Island, to be collector of the district of Newport, in said state.

Barnabas Bates, of the state aforesaid, to be collector for the district of Bristol, in Rhode Island.

Henry Middleton, of South Carolina, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Russia.

George F. Strother, of Virginia, to be receiver of public moneys at St. Louis.

George Bullitt, of Arkansas, to be register of the land office at Cape Girardeau.

Tunstall Quarles, of Kentucky, to be receiver of public moneys at the same place.

Hartwell Boswell, of Kentcky, to be register of the land office for the district of Laurence, in the territory of Arkansas.

John Trimble, of Kentucky, to be receiver of public moneys at the same place.

William Douglass Simms, of Alexandria, to be register of the land office at Arkansas, in the territory of Arkansas.

Henry W. Conway, to be receiver of public moneys at the same place,

Benjamin S. Pope, of Alabama, to be register of the land office at Huntsville, in the said territory.

Obadiah Jones, of the said territory, to be receiver of public moneys at the same place.

Humphrey Peake, of Virginia, to be collector of the district of Alexandria.

John M. Canfield, of New York, to be collector and inspector of the revenue for the district of Sackett's Harbor.

Joseph Bryan, of New York, to be consul at Pernambuco, in Brazil.

Thomas Trask, of Surinam, to be consul at Surinam.

John W. Parkers of Massachusetts, to be consul at Amsterdam.

William M. M'Lean, of Ohio, to be receiver of public moneys for the district of Piqua.

Thomas B. Vanhorne, of Ohio, to be register of the district of Piqua.

Ambrose Whitlock, of Indiana, to be receiver of public moneys for the district of Terre Haut, in said state.

Williamson Dunn of Indiana, to be register of the said district.

Lazarus Noble, of Indiana, to be receiver of public moneys for the district of Brookville, in said state.

Robert Hanna, jun. of Indiana, to be register of the said district.

Charles M. Taylor, of Indiana, to be receiver of public moneys for the district of Jeffersonville, in said state.

John Horsey, of Maryland, to be factor of the United States at Fort Confederation.

John Taylor, of South Carolina, and John Floyd, of Georgia, to be commissioners to hold a treaty with the Creek Indians, for the extinguishment of their title to all the lands claimed by them within the state of Georgia.

Horton Howard, of Ohio, to be receiver of public moneys for the district of Delaware.

Lawrence Taliaferro, of Virginia, to be Indian agent at Peters, on the Upper Mississippi.

Matthew Lyon, of Kentucky, to be United States' factor at Arkansas.

Lilburn W. Boggs, of Missouri, to be assistant factor at fort Osage, on the Missouri,

Lewis Cass, of Michigan territory, and Solomon Sibley, of Michigan territory, to be commissioners to hold treaties with the Indians of that territory, for the extinguishment of their title to lands within the same.

Charles Tait, of Alabama, to be judge of the district of Alabama.

Joseph Selden, of Virginia, to be judge of the district of Arkansas.

David Files, of Alabama, to be marshal for the district of Alabama.

John N. Moulder, of the city of Washington, and William S. Radcliff, of the same place, to be justices of the peace for Washington county, in the district of Columbia.

George Gray, of Kentucky, to be Indian agent at Natchetoches.

Henry Conner, to be marshal for the district of Illinois.

Thomas Coxe, to be register of the land office at Vandalia, for the district of Illinois.

John M'Lean, to be receiver of public moneys for the district of Illinois.

Dennis Prieur, to be receiver of public moneys in the eastern district of Louisiana.

James Johnson, of Virginia, to be collector for the port of Norfolk, in Virginia.

John Mullowney, of Pennsylvania, to be consul at Tangier, in the empire of Morocco.

Joseph Dunbar, to be receiver of public moneys at the land office west of Pearl river.

Lewis Winston, to be register of the land office west of Pearl river,

George Theodore Ladico, of Port Mahon, in the Island of Minorca, to be consul for Minorca and the Balearic Isles.

John W. Hall, of Connecticut, to be consul to Cadiz.

SOMETHING LIKE—RECANTATION.

Mr. CLAY.—At a dinner given to Mr. CLAY, at Lexington, Kentucky, on the 14th inst. Mr. C. expressed himself in the following manner, in regard to our relations with South America:

Mr. CLAY then arose, and expressed his grateful sense of the honor he had received, and of the affection and regard which had uniformly been manifested towards him by his fellow citizens. Nothing, he observed, but a sense of duty the most imperative to himself and his family, could induce him to abandon a situation so agreeable to him as that which he had so long occupied in their service. He was happy to believe, however, that, although in zeal and fidelity he would yield to none, talents, greater than he could devote to their service, might be enlisted by them. He then alluded to the three great topics, which had of late principally claimed his attention in the councils of the nation, viz. Internal Improvement, Domestic Manufactures, and the great cause of Freedom in South America. The first object had not been completely obtained, in consequence of honest doubts and scruples respecting the constitutional powers of Congress in relation to it; yet much had evidently been done towards it by extending a belief of its importance, and increasing the disposition to promote it. The value of domestic manufactures, especially to us in the west, Mr. Clay dwelt upon with considerable emphasis, and expressed a conviction that their encouragement was absolutely essential to our prosperity. On the subject of the struggles in South America, he gave, at some length, his reasons for the zeal he had displayed. He believed the patriots of that country capable of freedom, he believed they deserved it, and he though it should have been the pride, as well as the duty, of this country, to have been first to acknowledge their right to it. On this subject he had been supposed materially to differ from the executive. It now appeared that the difference was rather as to the time, and the mode than as to the substance. The executive had been endeavoring by negotiation, to procure a simultaneous acknowledgement, by the European powers and ourselves, of the Independence of South America, while he had been anxious that we should act without delay and without concert with other nations. The only difference therefore was that the executive had been—more prudent perhaps—at least more deliberate than he would have been: that the executive had deemed it proper to pay some regard to the views and wishes of other nations, while his desire had been to pursue a course exclusively American, uninfluenced by the policy of my lord Castlereagh, Count Nesselrode, or any other of the great men of Europe: but it appeared nevertheless that both he and the executive were directing their efforts to the same great end. Mr. Clay then again alluded to his reasons for declining a re-election and observed that he had resolved to retain for a time the privilege of resigning or not, as circumstances might require, the remainder of his present term, he again feelingly expressed his sense of the encouraging support and flattering degree of confidence he had uniformly received from his constituents, and the peculiar satisfaction he felt at the prospect afforded, by the characters of those, brought before the public as candidates for the office he declined, that no injury would result to the community from his retirement.

FEATS of EXTRAORDINARY STRENGTH.

In all ages there have existed men who have attracted great attention by surprising instances of strength. It is susceptible of proof that above 1500 years ago, there were people who by applying the principles of mechanical powers to their bodies, or placing themselves in such a position as to answer well recognized principles of mechanism, were capable of performing feats, which have even astonished the world; although it is unquestionably true that any man of ordinary corporeal powers, could have performed the same by using similar means.

In the commencement of the last century, or about the end of the century preceding, a man by the name of Topham performed wonders in London; he usually exhibited on Tower hill: he was called *the strong man*. About the same period, or since, a man, who called himself *Sampson*, excited the attention of Germany by the same means; when he fixed himself between a couple of posts upon any level place, two or more horses could not move him; he could break ropes asunder; lift a man up on his knee whilst he remained stretched upon the ground; and could suffer stones to be broken upon his breast. The Roman Emperor Maximus, who possessed uncommon strength of body, insomuch that he could break a horse's jaw with the blow of his fist, break the thigh of the same animal by kicking it, and drag a couple of oxen at his pleasure; but upon recollection, this man should not be classed with those before described, for his personal strength was equalled by his uncommon size and gigantic stature: his wife's bracelet served him for a thumb ring. His appetite bore an equal proportion to his other powers, having the allowance of 40 pounds of flesh and six gallons of wine per day; without a debauch in either. He had been originally a Thracian shepherd; was taken into the body guard of the Emperor Severus; first attracted royal attention by beating sixteen horses following, in running; then having outrun several men, and lastly tired the Emperor's charger.

A feat of the former description of persons was frequently performed by one Firmus, or Firmius, in the fourth century. He was a native of Seleucia in Syria, and he attempted to set himself up as an Emperor of Egypt, but was eventually executed by order of Aurelian. He could suffer a common smith's anvil to be beaten upon his breast, at the same time supporting his weight upon his feet and shoulders, between two pillars so that he appeared suspended in the air, his body forming an arch;

which *Desaguilieres* explained in a course of experimental philosophy, delivered in London, anno 1745.

—

FEATS OF DEXTERITY.

It does not appear whether the ancients taught birds, dogs, hares, and other animals, to perform tricks, as at present done for money in Europe; but there is a very singular circumstance recorded of an elephant, that walked backwards and forwards upon a rope, in Rome which Galba first caused to be shown to the people: as recorded by Dio Cassius, Seneca and Suetonius. It also appears, that in the thirteenth century, there were those who ventured to ride a horse on a rope. The Sybarites are reported to have taught their horses to dance to music, as a variety of authors confirm.

We must not omit to mention the skill of our countryman, Wildman, so famous for his management of bees, about 1766, that they followed him wherever he went, and clothed every part of his body as in a swarm; his cap being particularly covered, and thousands flying round about him.

Persons also destitute of hands and arms, have performed wonders, at various times, with their feet.

Figures, puppets, and other automata, the produce of machinery, have also much amused the world. There are many instances in ancient as well as comparatively modern times, of this; but to mention only Week's Tarantula spider, and Milliardet's various figures in our days, may serve to confirm belief. The Greeks called such figures marionettes. In antiquity, Dædalus was famous, as an artist, in making them.

There has not been a more eminent mechanist among moderns than Vaucanson, the Frenchman, who constructed a figure that played on a flute, performed twelve tunes, stopping the holes with its fingers. An eagle is said to have been constructed by one Muller, which flew about, and when the Emperor Maximilian entered Nuremburgh, perched on the town-gate, and inclined its head and shoulders in token of submission.

We, ourselves, have actually seen so timid an animal as a hare, in the streets of London, beat a drum with its fore paws, and fire a pistol.

A Dr. Panza, of Naples, is said to have invented forceps, by which a surgeon can dress wounds without the assistance of any other person; and another machine by which a surgeon can, unaided, amputate limbs. The Government have rewarded the inventor, and published the invention.

THE FINE WRITINGS of the SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

We offer as a specimen of the ornate, ambitious style of the seventeenth century, in England, an extract from Sir Thomas Urquhart's work, "The Jewel," which was published in 1652, and greatly admired in its day.—The author was a man of extensive learning, though devoted to the profession of arms, and left besides, an admirable translation of the two first books of Rabelais. *Nat. Gaz.*

—

The Admirable Critchtoun.

To speak a little now of his (Lord Napier's) campatriot Crichtoun, I hope will not offend the ingenious reader; who may know, by what is already displayed, that it cannot be heterogeneal from the proposed purpose, to make report of that magnanimous act atchieved by him at the Duke of Mantua's court, to the honour not only of his own; but to the eternal renown also of the whole Isle of Britain the manner whereof was thus:

A certaine Italian gentlemen, of a mighty, able, strong, nimble, and vigorous body, by nature fierce, cruel, warlike, and audacious, and in the gladiatory art so superatively expert and dextrous, that all the most skilful teachers of escrime, and fencing-masters of Italy (which in manner of choice professors in that faculty needed never as yet to yield to any nation in the world) were by him beaten to their good behaviour, and, by blows and thrusts given in which they could not avoid, enforced to acknowledge him their overcomer: bethinking himself, how, after so great a conquest of reputation, he might by such means be very suddenly enriched, he projected a course of exchanging the blunt to sharp, and the foiles into tucks; and in this resolution providing a purse full of gold, worth near upon 400 pounds English money, traveled along the most especial and considerable parts of Spain, France, the Low Countrys, Germany, Pole, Hungary, Greece, Italy and other places, wherever there was greatest probability of encountering with the eagerest and most atrocious duellists; and immediately after his art rival to any city or town that gave apparent likelihood of some one or other champion that would enter the lists and cope with him, he boldly challenged them with sound of trumpet in the chief market place, to adventure an equal sum of money against that of his, to be disputed at the sword's point, who should have both. There failed not several brave men, almost of all nations, who accepting of his cartel, were not afraid to hazard both their person and coin against him: but (till he midled

with his Critchtoun) so maine was the ascendant he had above all his antagonists, and so unlucky the fate of such as afforded to scuffle with him, that all his opposing combatants (of what state or dominion soever they were) who had not lost both their life and gold, were glad, for the preservation of their person, (though sometimes with a great expence of blood,) to leave both their reputation and money behind them. At last returning homewards to his own country, loaded with honor and wealth, or rather the spoil of the reputation of those foreigners, whom the Italians call Trámontani, he, by the way, after his accustomed manner of aboarding other places, repaired to the city of Mantua, where the Duke (according to the courtesie usually bestowed on him by other princes) vouchsafed him a protection, and savegard for his person: he (as formerly he was wont to do by beat of drum, sound of trumpet, and several printed papers, disclosing his design, battered on all the chief gates, posts and pillars of the town,) gave all men to understand that his purpose was to challenge at the single rapier, any whosoever of that city or country, that durst be so bold as to fight with him, provided he would deposit a bag of five hundred Spanish pistols, over against another of the same valine, which himself should lay down, upon this condition, that the enjoyment of both should be the conqueror's due. His challenge was not long unanswered: for it happened at the same time, that three of the most notable cutters in the world, (and so highly cried up for valour, that all the bravos of the land were content to give way to their domineering, how insolent soever they should prove, because of their former constantly obtained victories in the field,) were all three together at the court of Mantua, who hearing of such a harvest of five hundred pistols, to be reaped (as they expected) very soon, and with ease, had almost contested amongst themselves for the priority of the first encounterer, but that one of my Lord Duke's courtiers moved them to cast lots who should be first, second, and third, in case none the former two should prove victorious. Without more adoe, he whose chance it was to answer the cartel with the first defiance, presented himself within the barriers, or place appointed for the fight, where his adversary attending him, as soon as the trumpet sounded a charge, they jointly fell to work: and (because I am not now to amplify the particulars of a combat) although the dispute was very hot for a while, yet, whose fortune it was to be first of the three in the field, had the disaster to be the first of three that was foyled: for at last with a thrust in the throat he was killed dead upon the ground. This nevertheless not a whit dismayed the other two; for the next day he that was second in the roll, gave his appearance after the same manner as the first had done, but with no better success; for he likewise was laid flat dead upon the place, by means of a thrust he received in the heart. The last of the three finding that he was sure of being engaged in the fight, as if he had been the first in order pluckt up his heart, knit his spirits together, and, on the day after the death of the second, most courageously entering the lists, demeaned himself for a while with great activity and skill; but at last, his luck being the same with those that preceeded him, by a thrust in the belly, he within four and twenty hours after gave up the ghost. These (you may imagine) were lamentable spectacles to the Duke and citie of Mantua, who casting down their faces for shame knew not course to take for reparation of their honour. The conquering duellist, proud of a victory so highly tending to both his honour and profit, for the space of a whole fortnight, or two weeks together marched daily along the streets of Mantua (without any opposition or controulment) like another Romulous, or Marcellus, in triumph: which the never-too-much to-be-admired Crichtoun perceiving, to wipe off the imputation of cowardice lying upon the court of Mantua, to which he had but even then arrived, (although formerly he had been a domestic thereof,) he could neither eat nor drink till he had first sent a challenge to the conqueror, appelling him to repair with his best sword in his hand, by 9 of the clock in the morning of the next day, in presence of the whole court and in the same place where he had killed the other three, to fight with him upon this quarrel; that, in the court of Mantua, there were as valient men as he; and, for his better encouragement to the desired undertaking, he assured him, that, to the aforesaid five hundred pistols, he would adjoin a thousand more; wishing him to do the like, that the victor, upon the point of his sword, might carry away the richer booty. The challenge, with all its conditions, is no sooner accepted of, the time and place condescended upon kept accordingly, and the fifteen hundred pistols *hinc inde* deposited, but of the two rapiers of equal weight, length, and goodness, each taking one, in presence of the Duke, Dutchess, with all the noblemen, ladies, magnifico's and all the choicest of both men, women, and that city, as soon as the signal for the duel was given, by the shot of a great piece of ordinance, of three score and four pound ball, the two combatants, with a lion-like animosity, made their approach to one another; and, being within distance, the valliant Crichtoun, to make his adversary spend his fury the sooner, betook himself to

the defensive part; wherein, for a long time, he shewed such excellent dexterity, in warding the other's blows, slighting his falsifyings, in breaking measure, and often, by the agility of his body, avoiding his thrusts, that he seemed but to play, whilst the other was in earnest. The sweetness of Crichtoun's countenance, in the hotest of the assault, like a glance of lightning on the heartt of the spectators, brought all the Italian ladies on a sudden to be enamoured of him; whilst the sternness of the other's aspect, he looking like an enraged bear would have struck terror into wolves, and affrighted an English mastiff. Though they were both in their linens, (to wit shirts and drawers, without any other apparel,) and in all outward conveniences equally adjusted; the Italian, without redoubling his streaks, foamed at the mouth with a choleric heat, and fetched a pantling breath: the Scot in sustaining his charge, kept himself in a pleasant temper, without passion, and made void his designas: he alters his wards from tierce to quart; he primes and seconds it, now high, now lowe and casts his body (like another Prothee) into all the shapes he can, to spie an open on his adversary, and lay hold of an advantage; but all in vain: for the invincible Crichtoun, whom no cunning was able to surprise, contrepostures his respective wards, and, with an incredible nimbleness both of hand and foot, evades his intent and frustrates the invasion. Now it is that the never be fore conquered Italian, finding himself a little faint, enters into a consideration that he may be overmatched; whereupon, a sad apprehension of danger seizing upon all his spirits, he would gladly have his life bestowed upon him as a gift, but that having never been accustomed to yield, he knows not how to beg it. Matchless Crichtoun, seeing it now high time to put a gallant catastrophe to that so long dubious combat, animated with a divinely inspired fervencie, to fulfil the expectation of the ladies, and crown the Duke's illustrious hopes, changeth his garb, falls to act another part, and, from defender, turns assailant: never did art so grace nature, nor nature second the precepts of art with so much liveliness, and such observance of time, as when, after he had struck fire out of the steel of his enemies sword, and gained the feeble thereof, with the fort of his own, by angles of the strongest position, he did, by geometrical flourishes of straight and oblique lines, so practically execute the speculative part, that, as if there had been Remora's and secret charms in the variety of his motion, the fierceness of his foe was in a trice tranqualified into the numbness of a peagant. Then was it that, to vindicate the reputation of the Duke's family, and expiate the blood of the three vanquished gentlemen, he alonged a stoccade *de pied ferme;* then recoiling, he advanced another thrust, and lodged it home; after which, retiring again, his right foot did beat the cadence of the blow that pierced the belly of this Italian; whose heart and throat being hit with the two former strokes, these three franch bouts given in upon the back of the other: besides that, if lines were imagined drawn from the hand that delivered them, to the places which were marked by them, they would represent a perfect Isosceles triangle, with a perpendicular from the top angle, cutting the basis in the middle; they likewise give us to understand, that by them he was to be made a sacrifice of atonement for the slaughter of the three aforesaid gentlemen, who were wounded in the very same parts of their bodies by other three such veneers as these, each whereof being mortal, and his vital spirits exhaling as his blood gushed out, all he spoke was this, "That seeing he could not live, his comfort in dying was, that he could not die by the hand of a braver man:" after the uttering of which words he expired, with the shrill clareens of trumpets, bouncing thunder of artillery, betwacked beating of drums, universal clapping of hands, and loud acclamations of joy for so glorious a victory, the air above them was so rarified by the extremity of the noise and vehement sound, dispelling the thickest and most condensed parts thereof, that (as Plutarch speaks of the Grecians, when they raised their shouts of allegress up to the very heavens, at the hearing of the gracious proclamations of Paulus Æmilius in favor of their liberty,) the very sparrows and other flying fowls were said to fall to the ground for want of air enough to uphold them in their flight.

SAVANNAH, June 22.—Two of the prisoners who were convicted of piracy, at the last term of the District Court of the United States, in this city, and who were sentenced to die on the same day Furlong was executed, but respited by the President of the United States, to the 28th of the present month, were yesterday discharged from confinement by the Marshal of this District, by order of the President. Their names are David Bower and Henry Mathews. They have received full pardon. Ralph Clintock, who was also under sentence of death, and who was to have been executed on Wednesday next, has, by the President, been respited for an indefinite period. He is to remain in close confinement.

Staples of the Richmond Makret.

Tobacco, old $5 a 12—Corn $2 a 2 50 75—Flour $4 25 a 4 55—Meal 62 and 67 cts—Wheat 84 a 87½ cts.—Hemp $140 a 150 per ton—Oats 40 a 45 cts.—Cotton 18 a 20 cts.

Circumstantial Evidence.

From the New York Commercial Advertiser.

About fifty years ago, Elizabeth Blanch, who kept a public house in Sunderland, a sea-port town of England, having missed a sum of money, which she kept in an unlocked drawer in her store, accused a person of the name of Joseph Humphreys, a boatman, of the theft. She had given him change at an early hour in the morning, and having discovered her loss only a few minutes after, she entertained no doubt of his guilt. On this testimony, and several circumstances unfavorable to the accused, he was convicted at the next assizes at Dunham, received sentence of death, and was executed notwithstanding the most solemn and reiterated protestations of innocence to the last.

Some time after, a sailor, on his return from a long voyage, fell sick at Plymouth, and having learnt the fate of Humphreys he made a full and satisfactory confession of the robbery, which was published at the time in all the newspapers. He stated, that whilst handing the sails of a ship in the harbor, near to which Elizabeth Blanch lived, he saw her deposit her money in a drawer, and going on shore he called at her house for a pint of ale. While she was drawing it, he contrived to secure the money, with which he returned unsuspected to the vessel. As this transaction took place the night previous to the discovery, it escaped notice, and the prosecutrix unwarrantably charged it on Humphreys, who had unluckily been her visitor without any fraudulent design.

—

At one of the provincial assizes in England, a gentleman was tried and convicted, upon *circumstantial evidence*, of the murder of his niece. It was sworn, that the uncle and niece were seen walking in the fields; that a person at a small distance heard the niece exclaim, "don't kill me uncle!—Don't kill me!"—and that instant a pistol or fowling piece was fired off. Upon these circumstances the gentleman was found guilty and executed.

Near twelve months after, the neice, who had eloped, arrived in England, and elucidated the whole transaction. It appeared that she had formed an attachment for a person whom her uncle disapproved of When walking in the fields, he was earnestly dissuading her from the connection, when she replied, that she was resolved to have him, or it would be her death, and therefore said—"Don't kill me, uncle! Don't kill me!" At the moment she uttered these words, a fowling piece was discharged by a sportsman in a neighboring field.—The same night she eloped from her uncle's house, and the combination of those suspicions circumstances, occasioned his ignominious death.

—

In the year 1735, Jonathan Bradford kept an Inn, in Oxfordshire, on the London road to Oxford. He bore an unexceptionable character. Mr. Hayes, a gentleman of fortune, being on his way to Oxford, on a visit to a relation, put up at Bradford's, where he joined company with two gentlemen, with whom he supped, and in conversation unguardedly mentioned that he had then about him a large sum of money. In due time they retired to their respective chambers; the gentlemen to a two bedded room, leaving, as is customary with many, a candle burning in the chimney corner. Some hours after they were in bed, one of the gentlemen being awake, thought he heard a deep groan in the adjoining chamber; and this being repeated, he softly awaked his friend. They listened together, and the groans increasing as of one dying, they both instantly arose, and proceeded silently to the door of the next chamber, from whence they heard the groans; and, the door being ajar, saw a light in the room. They entered, but it is impossible to paint their consternation on perceiving a person weltering in his blood in the bed, and a man standing over him, with a dark lanthorn in one hand a knife in the other. The man seemed as petrified as themselves, but his terror carried with it all the terror of guilt! The gentlemen soon discovered the person was the stranger with whom they had that night supped, and that the man who was standing over him was their host. They seized Bradford directly, disarmed him of his knife, and charged him with being the murderer: he assumed by this time the air of innocence, positively denied the crime, and asserted that he came there with the same humane intentions as themselves; for that, hearing a noise, which was succeeded by a groaning, he got out of bed, struck a light, armed himself with a knife for his defence, and was but that minute entered the room before them.

These assertions were of little avail, he was kept in close custody till the morning, and then taken before a neighboring justice of the peace. Bradford still denied the murder, but nevertheless, with such an apparent indication of guilt, that the justice hesitated not to make use of this extraordinary expression, on writing out his mittimus. "Mr. Bradford, either you or myself committed this murder."

This extraordinary affair was the conversation of the whole country; Bradford was tried and condemned over and over again, in every company. In the midst of all this predetermination came on the assizes at Oxford; Bradford was brought to trial, he pleaded not guilty. Nothing could be more strong than the evidence of the two gentlemen; they testified to the finding Mr. Hayes murdered in his bed; Bradford at the side of the body with a light and a knife; that knife and the hand which held it bloody; that on their entering the room he betrayed all the signs of a guilty man, and that a few moments preceding, they had heard the groans of the deceased.

Bradford's defence on his trial was the same as before the gentlemen; he had heard a noise; he suspected some villainy transacting; he struck a light; he snatched a knife (the only weapon near him) to defend himself; and the terrors he discovered, were merely the terrors of humanity, the natural effects of innocence as well as guilt, on beholding such a horrid scene!

This defence, however, could be considered but as weak, contrasted with the several powerful circumstances against him. Never was circumstantial evidence more strong! There was little need left of comment from the judge in summing up the evidence! No room appeared for extenuation! And the jury brought in the prisoner guilty, even without going out of the box.

Bradford was executed shortly after, still declaring he was not the murderer, nor privy to the murder of Mr. Hayes; but he died disbelieved by all.

Yet were those assertions not untrue! The murder was actually committed by Mr. Hayes' footman; who, immediately on stabbing his master, rifled his breeches of his money, gold watch and snuff box, and escaped to his own room, which could have

been, from the after circumstances, scarcely two seconds before Bradford's entering the unfortunate gentleman's chamber The world owes this knowledge to a remorse of conscience in the footman (eighteen months after the execution of Bradford) on a bed of sickness; it was a death bed repentance, and by that death the law lost its victim

It is much to be wished, that this account could close here; but it cannot! Bradford, though innocent, and not privy to the murder, was, nevertheless, the murderer in design. He had heard, as well as the footman, what Mr. Hayes had declared at supper, as to his having a large sum of money about him, and he went to the chamber with the same diabolical intentions as the servant He was struck with amazement! he could not believe his senses! and in turning back the b d-clothes, to assure himself of the fact, he, in his agitation, dropped his knife on the bleeding body, by which both his hand and the knife became bloody. These circumstances Bradford acknowledged to the clergyman who attended him after his sentence.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 25.—Siege of Aleppo in 1819—The Porte has been long expecting, with impatience, the news of the termination of the civil troubles at Aleppo, The Tartars who brought the happy intelligence arrived here on the 23d.

Several acts of oppression which are laid to the charge partly of the Pacha (Chorschmed Ahmed Pacha) himself, and partly of his principal officers, that the difference of sects and the hatred of the Arabs to the Turks, they blew up into a flame the fire that had been smothered under ashes for some years, which burst forth with great violence at the end of October. The standard of rebellion was raised, and the Pacha compelled to fly. Thousands of the inhabitants of that populous city took arms, and a committee of government was formed, which entered into negotiations, sometimes with the exexpelled governor, sometimes with the European Consuls. Corschmed Ahmed Pacha exerted himself to penetrate into the city again, and to punish the rebels, but his force being insufficient, he applied to the Porte, which immediately ordered the neighboring Pachs to assist him, and a commissioner was to endeavor to pacify the rebels, and to bring them back to their duty and obedience to the Pacha. The Pacha of Cesarea and Siwas came to his assistance in December, with some troops, and were followed by Mahommed Drekelakedder Pacha Governor of Adana, so celebrated for his valour, with some thousand men; all of them resolved to try amicable means before they had recourse to arms. They applied to the foreign consuls, who having every thing to fear from the licentious fury of the multitude, did their utmost, but their endeavours were fruitless

On the 3d of January, Chorschmed Ahmed, who had formerly subdued the rebellion in Servia, ventured with 8000 Arnouts, an attack on the superb Castel el Heraine, which was defended by 5 or 6000 men, and well fortified.—After six hours combat, supported by a well directed fire of artille y, the assailants penetrated by a breach into this part of the city. Above 2000 of the besieged who had used every house as a fortress were killed. The Pacha renewed his negociations, and confided them to the Scheik, but even the authority of this religious officer could not appease the Arabs and the Janissaries who had joined them.

On the 19th January, the Pacha made a second successful attack, and on the 2d, a third upon the quarter of Haret el Rice, which was the most strongly fortified. Chorschmed Ahmed Pacha had, however, caused mines to be laid, the blowing up of which opened new access to his troops, buried many leaders of the rebels in the rubbish, and made the troops of the Pacha, encouraged by this success, masters of all this quarter. The people, alarmed by the progress of the conqueror, feared the utmost from him. The rebels induced them to commit the most terrible disorders, and it was with difficulty that the Scheik and the European consuls induced the people to submit.

On the mediation of the consuls, Chorschmed Ahmed Pacha published an order of the day, which promised the rebels a general amnesty, on condition that 53 Jannissaries, who were previously noticed as dangerous to the public peace, should leave Aleppo in seven days. This being promised, the Mulesselim, (or deputy of the Pacha) was sent the next morning to the city with about 500 men. In the evening, Talib Ebn Arab, one of the most desperate incendiaries, excited a fresh insurrection. The house of the Mulesselim was stormed, and himself threatened with death, while he was exerting himself to appease the popular rage —Meantime the Pacha, informed of what was passing entered the city amidst the thunder of the artillery, and got possession of the fortified post Scheh Seprak. The general pardon was again proclaimed, but at the same time it was required that several individuals should be delivered up, who had excited these last tumults. This was immediately done, and the Tartars, who have brought the news of the reduction of Aleppo, also delivered the heads of these rebels, which are exposed to-day on the gates of the Seraglio Other measures, however, will be required, to restore entire tranquility in those parts, and above all, the oppressive proceedings in which the superior authorities allowed themselves, must be checked. The Porte, though satisfied at the subduing of this rebellion, seems to be aware of this and to be fully sensible how dangerous and injurious such victories are.

(*Austrian Observer, April* 10.

ANOTHER SPECK.

ST. LOUIS, June 7.—A short time ago it was made known that a couple of United States' soldiers had been killed by the Indians on the Upper Mississippi, in the neighborhood of the fort on Rock Island. The Upper Missouri now exhibits a scene of the same sort perpetrated on a trading company from this place. Young Mr. Pratte, son of gen. Pratte, had made a very valuable commerce with the Maha's during the winter and was descending the river in the mouth of May. Between 50 and 100 miles above the Council Bluffs he was attacked at camp at day break in the morning, had one man killed, three wounded, and a ball cut its depth across his own head. After firing twenty or thirty guns the Indians ran in with their knives and hatchets, and the party of Mr. Pratte with difficulty saved themselves, with the entire loss of their rich cargo of furs. On their arrival at the Council Bluffs capt. Magee of the Rifle was detached in pursuit of the Indians. They are believed to be a party of Aricara's, commonly called Riccaree's.—This nation lives below the Mandan villages, are noted for their frequent depredations upon the traders, also for their attacks on the United States troops which attempted to carry home the Mandan

chiefs who had accompanied Lewis and Clark in their return voyage from the Pacific, and they have much intercourse with the British establishments on the river Assinaboin and lake Winipec. ☞ The Mandan Villages must be occupied by a regiment of United States troops unless the Congress intends to surrender the fur trade and the command of the Indians above the Council Bluffs to the British North West company.

INDIANS OF MISSOURI.

Extract from a series of Notes on the Missouri River, and some of the native tribes, by a gentleman attached to the Yellow Stone Expedition, in 1819; published in the Petersburgh Intelligencer.

The Pawnees are now at war with the Osages, Kanses, Sioux. and Spaniards; their war excursions are very frequently carried into the settlements of the latter, from whence they procure a great number of fine horses; they likewise obtain horses from the nations south of them for their blankets, guns, &c.; their horses they sell again to the nations on the Missouri, for double or treble the quantity; they appear to prefer obtaining European goods, by this species of traffic, to hunting for Beaver, and other valuable furs; and their trade is of very little importance to the whites.

Their war parties, last summer, brought them in nearly 400 horses, principally stolen from the Spanish settlements. Formerly they held the Spaniards in great respect, as they put large detachments of troops into their country. Since 1806, however, the Spaniards have not done so, restrained probably by the consideration that the territory belongs to the United States, and being debarred from the only effectual means of checking Indian depredation; their settlements are placed in the same unfortunate situation that ours were on the borders of Florida.

The agriculture of the Pawnees, is about the same as the Kaoses, and Ottoes; like them, they only reside in their villages during the intervals of planting and gathering their corn; living nearer the habitual haunts of the Buffalo, than those nations, they subsist exclusively on it; they never hunt on the Missouri, and have but little intercourse with the whites.

They are a proud, haughty people, and have great ideas of their own strength and importance. One of their principal men told the interpreter,—"What do we care for the whites—did not our fathers live very well, without knowing that such people had an existence? Have we not plenty of buffalo meat and corn, not only for ourselves, but to give our friends, when they come to see us; and what Pawnee is so poor, that cannot, if he choose, give his guest a horse to ride home? Who is there in the world that does not know of the bravery, and numbers of the great Pawnee nation?" Notwithstanding, however, the good opinion they have of themselves, they are believed to be less warlike than their neighbors, owing to the comparative ease with which they live, subsisting entirely on buffalo, which they find so near them. The chace of the buffalo, besides, being less laborious than that of the elk or deer, does not require the use of fire arms, with which the Pawnees are not expert. Their language is more guttural than that of the Kanses and Osages, and approaches nearer to the Sioux, their figures are tall and slim; they have remarkably high cheek bones, and a certain wildness of look, that is peculiar to them. Their government, like that of the Ottoes, is an hereditary aristocracy; the power and authority of which is very much dependent upon the individual character of the principal chieftain. They are not so cleanly, or rather, they are more filthy, in their persons, lodges and cooking, than the other tribes. There is a custom among these Indians of swearing they will not survive the death of a certain friend or friends, that frequently leads them to desperate deeds. About two years since, a trader, descending the Arkansaw, with some packs of beaver, and about thirty men, was attacked by a party of three hundred Pawnees. They made a breastwork of their packs of beaver, and finally succeeded in beating off the Indians, killing five or six of them. After the Indians had despaired of success, and were about giving up the attack, two indians who had lost their friends, made a furious charge by themselves: they were both out to pieces, the memory of these men is universally cherished: they are celebrated in all their war songs.

The Pawnees find that formidable animal, the white or grizly bear, in their hunting excursions towards the head of La Platte river. On the Missouri, it is seldom seen below the great bend, and is found most frequently on the Yellow Stone, and its branches, and at the three forks of the Missouri. This bear will usually attack a man, if approached very near. Indians consider it a great exploit to kill one of them. When they are alarmed, they rise completely on their hind legs, and dart forward by jumps; they move much faster than a man can run, rushing forward with the utmost ferocity, their mouths wide open, and snapping their teeth, which makes a noise like the shutting of a steel trap; a man attacked by them on the open plains of the Missouri, has but little chance of escape, if there be neither tree to climb, nor water to take to. The tenacity of life in these animals has been exaggerated, but is very remarkable; as many as thirteen balls have been put into them, without killing them, but there are also instances of their being killed by two, or even one ball, their most mortal part is directly under the ear; they attack and kill a buffalo, dragging him to their haunts, where they bury if they do not wish to eat him.

These animals are so fierce, ardent and furious, that they soon exhaust their strength in pursuit; they are hunted by the Indians on horseback; a party of three or four men, well mounted, approach the bear, and one of them provokes him to pursue him, this he does with his utmost force; the horseman, to avoid the bear, has to put his horse to his metal; he leads him round a circle, towards his companions, one of whom provokes him; he is easily made to quit the old pursuit, and join in the new; he is again led round, and again induced to pursue a fresh horse; the bear pursues until he becomes completely exhausted, lays down apparently lifeless; is perfectly hors du combat, and may be approached and shot, by putting the muzzle of the gun to his ear. Nothing can be more animating, it is said, than this hunt; there is no danger of the bear overtaking the horse, unless he trips; if, however, the rider should be thrown, and the bear get a blow at him, death appears inevitable; such is the immense force with which they use their claws. It takes a bear four or five years to attain its growth; they are supposed to arrive at a very old age, as they are frequently found with their claws worn out.